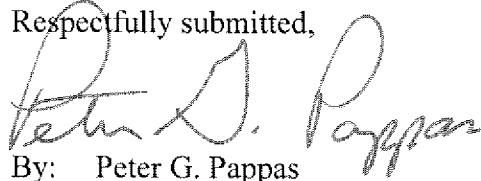


**Remarks**

Applicant hereby claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) and 35 U.S.C. §365(b) to German Patent Application No. 103 61 166.5 filed December 22, 2003 and German Patent Application No. 10 2004 027 986.1 filed on June 9, 2004, and PCT/DE2004/002748 filed on December 15, 2004.

The claims have been amended to put the claims in a more preferred format for U.S. examination, and to eliminate multiple dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter G. Pappas", is written over the typed name.

By: Peter G. Pappas  
Reg. No. 33205

Dated: June 1, 2006

SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP  
999 Peachtree Street, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3996  
Telephone: (404) 853-8000  
Facsimile: (404) 853-8806